

DockLines

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THE SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2009

Editor: Mick Kronman
Art Director: Brian Slagle



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Fiscal Year 2010 Budget and Fee Changes

Scott Riedman, Waterfront Business Manager

Today's unstable economy affects us all. Private sector businesses and government agencies are both struggling with revenue shortfalls. The Waterfront Department is not immune to the slow-down. It functions somewhat like a private marina, funding all expenditures with user fees such as lease payments, slip rents, and parking fees. Like a private marina operator, the Department does not receive tax revenue.

With 100% lease and slip occupancy, Waterfront Department revenue is relatively stable, with one major exception: slip transfer fees. In this economy, people simply aren't buying boats and transferring slips. Based on prior years' income patterns, slip transfer fees were expected to be \$688,000 this year. Although this income stream has been reliable and increasing for the last six years, it has virtually stopped this year and is not expected to recover next year. Largely because of this decline, the Department expects a revenue shortfall of approximately \$500,000 by June 30, 2009.

In order to offset this shortfall, the Department will recommend \$553,000 in service reductions and program cuts in FY 2010, along with \$170,000 in capital program cuts. Fee increases will also be necessary to maintain the Department's reserves above required levels.

Fee increases under consideration for July 1, 2009, include:

- ◆ 2% slip fee increase;
- ◆ \$25/foot slip transfer fee increase (Not applicable to 20 foot slips);
- ◆ Visitor slip fee increase from \$.60/foot/day to \$.90/foot/day, except \$.70 foot/day for working commercial fishing vessels;
- ◆ Hourly parking fee increase to \$2.00/hour;
- ◆ Stearns Wharf parking increase to \$2.50/hour (90 minutes free with validation).

Potentially, certain Parks and Recreation Department programs, most likely the beach grooming program and/or the beach lifeguard program, may be shifted to the Waterfront Department. The amount of the program shift has yet to be determined. Additional program cuts, capital program cuts and fee increases will

Recap of Considered FY 2010 Fee Increases

2% Slip Fee

\$ 25/foot Slip Transfer Fee

\$.90/foot/day Visitor Slip Fee
(exception \$.70/foot/day for Commercial Fishing Vessels)

\$ 2/hour Hourly Parking Fee

\$ 2.50/hour Wharf Parking Fee
(90 minutes free with validation)

"Fee increases will also be necessary to maintain the Department's reserves above required levels."

be needed to compensate for any funding shift to the Waterfront Department from other City programs.

Waterfront staff reviewed the proposed FY 2010 budget with the Harbor Commission on February 26, 2009 and March 19, 2009. City Council is scheduled to adopt the FY 2010 budget in late June. If you're interested in these budget issues, please check the City's web site at www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov. Click on Boards and Commissions/Harbor Commission/City Meetings & Videos Online for streaming video recordings of the February 26 and March 19 Harbor Commission meetings.

DockLines

City of Santa Barbara
Waterfront Department

Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to noon
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Business Office: 564-5531
Harbor Patrol: 564-5530
Maintenance: 564-5522
Parking Services: 564-5523
Office Fax: 560-7580

(805) local area code



Big on biodegradable soaps (see back cover)

Marina 1 Emergency Egress Float

Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

The Marina 1 gangway is the only access to Marina 1 and is normally a safe, secure way to get on and off the main headwalk. A couple unexpected events last year required closure of the gangway and demonstrated the need to have alternative access to (and egress from) Marina 1.

During both gangway closures, Harbor Patrol docked a vessel between the main headwalk and Fish Float South. People were able to access the marina by walking across the Patrol Boat's swim step and heading up the gangway in front of West Marine. This clever method of allowing people to safely exit Marina 1 prompted the Department to consider a more permanent solution.

Maintenance staff designed and built a small float that bridges the gap between Marina 1 and Fish Float South that can be used in an emergency. The "emergency egress float" will normally lay parallel to the main headwalk at the foot of the gangway. The float pivots on a hinge and can be easily deployed by rotating the float to bridge the gap (directions are on a sign located adjacent to the gangway). The float can then be tied off to Fish Float South so anyone exiting Marina 1 can cross over to the commercial fishing dock and head up the gangway located in front of West Marine. Feel free to ask any Waterfront staff for a demonstration.

Accommodation Dock Extension

With thousands of boats tying up there every year, our aging Accommodation Dock needs an upgrade. Besides deck-board replacement, staff is considering extending the dock up to 20' and widening it from 6' to 8', providing more docking space for larger vessels.

Because extending the dock into the turning basin between the City Pier and Marina 1 could impact vessel maneuverability, the extension was "mocked up" for several weeks to give boaters a sense of how it may affect them.

Staff invites and will consider boaters' comments, revising the plan as appropriate or moving forward with the proposed extension. If the project moves forward, physical improvements will be made sometime in FY 2010 after completing the permitting process (City Planning Commission and California Coastal Commission). Meanwhile, please contact Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager, at ktreiberg@santabarbaraca.gov or call him at 564-5527 with your comments on the proposed extension.

City Pier Gets Major Face Lift

The City Pier, workhorse of our harbor, endures plenty of abuse—especially its deck boards, which bear the brunt of work trucks, semi-trucks, fork lifts, cranes, fish totes and more. The 15-year-old boards were overdue for replacement.

In addition, staff divers inspected City Pier piles and found a few rotten ones. They also identified an area under the deck where pipes carrying gasoline and diesel to the fuel dock needed more support.

In February, Schock Construction Company replaced all deck boards, installed five new piles and made the other necessary structural improvements to the pier. All work was conducted at night, with the pier opened during the day to keep the harbor operating smoothly.

This project was originally scheduled for construction in two phases over the next two years. Instead, it was included with this year's annual pile driving on Stearns Wharf, saving almost \$70,000 in our Capital Improvement Fund.

Gear Up at the Swap Meet on May 16th

Working together for a clean Santa Barbara Harbor!

CLEAN MARINA CORNER



Cool stuff at the 2008 Swap Meet



2008 Hazmat Turn-in

Harbor Swap Meet and Hazmat Turn-In Day May 16th

Harbor Swap Meet:

The Harbor Swap Meet, sponsored by the Waterfront Department and Harbor Merchants Association, returns to Santa Barbara Harbor on Saturday, May 16th, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Come to the Marina 3 parking lot to buy, sell, peruse or to just enjoy good company, coffee and donuts at this uniquely local event. Typical sales items include sailboat rigging, fishing gear, outboard motors, surfboards, kayaks and all manner of boat parts. Sign ups for vendor spaces (\$10 apiece) will occur at the Harbor-master's Office beginning Monday, April 13th.

Hazmat Turn-In:

And while taking inventory of what you need to buy or sell, check your dock box, too, since this year's event is again coupled with a Hazmat

Turn-In Day. Located next to the Swap Meet, you'll find a marked disposal area for hazardous materials you may wish to get rid of before boating season begins—items like old cans of varnish, lacquer or paint, or small amounts of gasoline or diesel. In an effort to limit the Hazmat event to harbor boat owners only, an "entry ticket" will be included in May's slip billing. The ticket entitles the slip permittee to dispose of any appropriate items that are in his or her boat or dock box. No ticket is necessary to participate in the Harbor Swap Meet.

Questions? Call Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager, at 805-897-2587.





Joint agency fire drill on the dredge

Undaria pinnatifida in Santa Barbara Harbor

Pooper Scoopers Needed

Steve McCullough, Harbor Patrol Supervisor

Help Wanted: Waterfront Department looking for pooper scoopers to clean up after their dogs.

Dog waste on the docks is an ongoing problem in the marinas. If you haven't found it on the docks, you've likely found it on the bottom of your shoes and tracked it onto your boat. Harbor Patrol receives regular complaints about dog waste, issuing citations to less-than-responsible dog owners who allow man's best friend to run loose in the marinas.

City regulations allow "the owners of boats in the Harbor who are crossing the docks and landward areas of the Harbor to reach their boats or leave the Harbor with their dogs on leash and under their control." Otherwise, dogs are not permitted in the marinas. They are also not allowed on city beaches.

Dog waste may not be washed or tossed into Harbor waters, where fecal coliform contamination is a concern, especially for birds, sea creatures and harbor diving services. Dog waste must be scooped up and disposed in a trash can or flushed into the sewer system. "Mutt-Mitt" dispensers are located around the Harbor for dog owners who forget to bring a clean-up bag.

Please notify Harbor Patrol at 564-5530 regarding dog violations and help be a part of the solution to dog pollution.

Joint Agency Drills

With out-of-town training opportunities and travel budgets slashed, Harbor Patrol is training locally with other agencies. In January, Patrol participated in a multi-agency Homeland Security exercise at Marina 4. Patrol also hosted three joint fire drills with the City Fire Department in January and February.

During the day-long Homeland Security exercise based at the Launch Ramp, Harbor Patrol joined forces with the U.S. Army Civil Support Readiness Group, FBI, Santa Barbara City Police and Fire departments, Santa Barbara County Sheriff and Fire departments and County Emergency Medical Services. The exercise simulated a "Weapons of Mass Destruction" (WMD) incident, including chemical and radiological threats, aboard a vessel in Marina 4. Threats were identified, evacuations simulated, areas secured, hazardous materials tested and WMD devices defused. Victims were extricated and decontamination completed.

The fire drills employed a scenario featuring a hypothetical fire and high-voltage electrical incident on the dredge (including controlled fire and smoke). Harbor Patrol and City Fire worked on "size up," radio communications, locating and securing electrical and fuel sources, extinguishing the fire, ventilating smoke, extricating injured civilians and providing appropriate patient care. All three drills succeeded in obtaining their objectives.

Harbor Patrol will continue seeking training opportunities that maximize results for levels of funding available.

Invasive Species Workshop June 16th

On June 16th, the Waterfront Department, California Department of Boating and Waterways, California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Program, California Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and University of California's Cooperative Extension-Sea Grant Program will sponsor a workshop on how to prevent the spread of invasive species in our waterways. Location of the workshop is yet to be decided.

After a 45-minute lunch break, attendees can participate in a hands-on boat inspection. For this activity, Fish and Game will provide its own trailer boat at the Launch Ramp Parking Lot. For more information or to pre-register for the event, contact Vivian Matuk, Environmental Boating Program Coordinator, California Department of Boating & Waterways/California Coastal Commission, at (415) 904-6905, or email her at vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov.

2009 Event Schedule

Operation Clean Sweep:	May 9th
Nautical Swap Meet:	May 16th
Invasive Species Workshop:	June 16th
Independence Day:	July 4th
Harbor & Seafood Festival:	Oct. 10th
Parade of Lights:	Dec. 13th

City of Santa Barbara

Waterfront Department
PO Box 1990
Santa Barbara, CA
93102-1990



Picture That! Swap Meet on May 16th.

To: 

The Santa Barbara Waterfront Department Newsletter DOCKLINES

Marine Life Protection Act Stirring Local Interest

Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager

The MLPA Initiative—a collaborative effort to implement the 1999 Marine Life Protection Act by establishing a network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)—has migrated to Southern California, following similar efforts in central and north-central regions of the state.

The foundation of the process is a Regional Stakeholder Group (RSG) comprised of 60+ representatives of conservation, fishing, aquaculture, ports and harbors, state agencies, coastal cities, tribal nations, kelp harvesters and more. With guidance from professional facilitators, a Science Advisory Team (SAT) and Department of Fish and Game staff, the RSG will ultimately forward three MPA-network options to a governor-appointed Blue Ribbon Task Force (BRTF) sometime this fall. The BRTF, in turn, will recommend a preferred alternative to the California Fish and Game Commission for final action.

In March, MLPA facilitators had each of three RSG subgroups submit two draft MPA arrays apiece. Outside interest groups submitted three additional arrays, including one from fishermen and one from environmental interests. All draft arrays are posted on the MLPA website at www.dfg.ca.gov/mlpa/.

When the RSG reconvenes April 28th and 29th in Oxnard, they will consider guidance from the SAT and BRTF on the draft arrays, including how they stack up against size, spacing and habitat replication guidelines. "Levels of protection" afforded by arrays that offer exclusions for certain uses will also be reviewed.

Meanwhile, look for a flyer in your May slip billing directing you to an online survey where you can describe how, where and what you do when you set to sea for recreation. The survey takes only a few minutes to complete and will assist decision makers in their effort to properly place MPAs while limiting social and economic impacts.

Clean and Green with Biodegradable Soap

While the Waterfront Department has for years recommended the use of biodegradable soaps for boat washing, the state now requires it as part of a recent update to the City's Storm Water Management Plan. Using biodegradable soaps for boat washing will help keep ingredients like phosphates and bleach, which harm marine life and can contribute to algae blooms (red tide), out of the harbor. The good news is that biodegradable soaps are available at most chandleries, boating outlets, auto shops and grocery stores.

Harbor Commission Schedule

April:	4/16/2009
May:	5/21/2009
June:	6/18/2009

Harbor Commission meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers